

**Colusa Subreach Planning Project Advisory Workgroup
Draft Meeting Summary
December 6, 2004 – Colusa County Farm Bureau**

**Summary prepared by Carolyn Penny, Facilitator, Common Ground: Center for
Cooperative Solutions with assistance from Ellen Gentry, Sacramento River
Conservation Area Forum**

Present:

Jay Agar, Burt Bundy, Woody Elliott, Rebecca Fris, Jay Dee Garr, John Garner, Armand Gonzales, Francis Hickle, Ray Krause, Kelly Moroney, Dan Obermeyer, Facilitator Carolyn Penny, Paul Raquel, John Rogers, Jeff Sutton, Project Manager Gregg Werner, Doug White, Jon Wrysinski, and Dawit Zeleke.

Guests: Michelle Baker (Common Ground), Ellen Gentry (SRCAF), Laura Jones (Institute for Social Research), John Merz, Vickie Newlin, Dee Ohliger, Joan Phillipe.

Agenda:

12:00 p.m.	Lunch
12:20 p.m.	Agenda Review and Introductions <i>Carolyn Penny, facilitator</i>
12:45 p.m.	November Notes and Ground Rules Roles and Interests of Each AW Member
1:15 p.m.	AW Work Schedule Science Subcommittee Project Scope and Budget Revisions <i>Burt Bundy (SRCAF) and Gregg Werner (TNC)</i>
1:45 p.m.	Landowner Survey <i>Laura Jones, CSUS Institute for Social Research</i>
2:30 p.m.	Public Comment
2:45 p.m.	Next steps January Agenda Wrap up and summary

Agenda Review and Introductions:

After the Advisory Workgroup approved the agenda, members introduced themselves with resolutions for the New Year. Guests joined the list:

- Take dog hunting more – Kelly
- Remember good points of job – Woody
- Bike in every garage – Ray
- Time for vacation; something positive each day – Dee
- Spend more time with family – Francis
- Work toward world peace – Jeff
- Be more effectively assertive – John M.
- Fishing more with family – Jon

Colusa Subreach Planning Project Advisory Workgroup Draft Meeting Summary 12.6.04

- Have more fun – Dan
- Keep up with Burt – Ellen
- Focus on positive – Rebecca
- More meaningful meetings – Burt
- Leave 5 minutes earlier – Gregg
- Not waste a day – Doug
- Eat more mandarins – Michelle
- Fewer meetings – Jay
- None – Paul
- Catch bigger steelhead – Dawit
- Ski more – Armand
- Stop bothering son for grandchildren – Vickie
- Make no resolutions – John R.
- None – Jay Dee

November Notes and Ground Rules:

Jeff Sutton requested that substantive dialogue be reflected in November 3, 2004 Meeting Summary. He will send in his additions to Carolyn within one week. John (not Don, as reflected in the summary) Garner was present at the November meeting. Payment in Lieu of Taxes information was not emailed between meetings because of last minute changes at the Working Landscapes Committee. The materials were distributed at this meeting by Burt.

The revised ground rules from the November 3 meeting were approved.

Roles and Interests

Each AW member described his or her roles, interests and description of success.

Name	Roles	Interests	Success
John Rogers	City of Colusa, Farmer	Protect people outside levees; farm in levees	Farm inside levee
Woody Elliott	Land Manager, State Parks	Integration of facilities and public access with environmental concerns on state park land	Habitat restored with public access

Colusa Subreach Planning Project Advisory Workgroup Draft Meeting Summary 12.6.04

Kelly Moroney	Public Land Manager, USFWS	Integration of facilities and public access with environmental concerns on state park land and protecting endangered species	Habitat restoration and public access without negative impacts on neighbors
Rebecca Fris	CALFED Coordinator	Environmental restoration and protection without impacting other interests	Balanced plan that can be implemented
Jay Dee Garr	RCD Board of Director, Planning Commissioner, RAC	Habitat restoration and protect economic base	See interests
Francis Hickel	Farmer, Landowner, Irrigation District	Maintain irrigation easements and boat launch facility; maintain good flood control system	Equitable management plan for irrigation district, boat launch
John Garner	Farmer	Flood control and irrigation systems not impeded by habitat restoration	Compromise to allow habitat restoration while meeting interests
Doug White	County Supervisor, Resident	Protect people and property of Colusa County; flood control; preserve environment; protect farming interests	Habitat restoration without harm to farming interests
Dawit Zeleke	Nature Conservancy Project Director	Habitat restoration compatible with flood control, local economics and public access	Healthy environment – species on recovery course, functioning flood control, and strong economy

Burt Bundy	Optimist, Farmer, Habitat Conservationist	See above	Do better for all of the above – habitat, agriculture, flood protection
Jeff Sutton	Executive Director of FWA, Farmer, Resident, Flood Control Action Commissioner, Farm Bureau	Protect agricultural economic base, maintain flood control, protect people and infrastructure, public access, property rights	Only pursuing habitat restoration with mitigation for all interests
Ray Krause	Retail, Service, and Agricultural Business	Recreational access to river – examples: biking, hiking	Enhancement of business due to recreational access
Armand Gonzales	Public Land Manager	Enhanced habitat along Sacramento River and public access	Public access to healthy habitat
Jon Wrysinski	County Public Works Director – Colusa County, Citizen	Protect county facilities, future of kids	Flood control and enhanced habitat
Dan Obermeyer	County Planning Director – Glenn County	Protect county infrastructure level of service and protect resources, recreational opportunities	Maintain local government and services and enhance economic and recreational opportunities

Advisory Workgroup Schedule:

Gregg reviewed the draft meeting plan. (See handout.) The schedule includes: Identifying landowner questions from input through the Advisory Workgroup (AW) and the public; Monthly meetings; CSU Sacramento Survey; March meeting report on surveys; Public meetings to be substantially publicized providing information in February with AW input; Workshop envisioned in March to see the Subreach by boat and by land; September and November 2006 workshops to visit restoration sites and adjoining sites.

Science subcommittee:

Gregg reported a subcommittee may be needed for technical details of project for submission to California Bay Delta Authority (CBDA), for subcommittee baseline assessment (looking at archaeology, tracking soils, hydraulic analysis, etc.). Rebecca Fris suggested that people with the right expertise and interest should discuss these items.

AW Decision: It was determined that technical groups can be created as necessary with all reports made available to the AW. Subcommittee membership is encouraged to include scientific and local expertise.

Project Scope and Budget Revisions:

The Overview of the Component Projects (6 Tasks) was reviewed along with Potential Changes to the CSP Scope of Work. (See handout.) Discussion ensued regarding: identifying landowner concerns and questions (i.e., large woody debris, fish habitat, pumping intakes, vegetation, natural river occurrences, etc.); the eight analysis sites (referenced Subreach map) that will come through AW in terms of existing and future restoration direction; possible need for studying data on channel capacity; existing deliverable contracts and whole reach of river opportunities for flood control, restoration and boat ramps.

AW Decision: The AW agreed with the proposed request to CALFED to reallocate some additional funding (an increase of \$80,000) to the research of landowner questions. AW requests maximum opportunity to guide analyses and manage timeline.

Payment In Lieu of Taxes:

Burt reported Working Landscapes supported recommendations last week, addressing conversion of agricultural land and assessment of taxes (see handout). Burt explained the issue of funds that are supplied by agencies. If land is converted from private to public, taxes are often lost. However, Fish and Game has been good at making payments. If the legislature doesn't allocate funding, the following year those funds are usually made up in arrears. The SRCAF has a standing committee with Denny Bungarz (Chair), Jeff Sutton (FWA), Vickie Newlin (CBDA), John Hoffman (RCRC), agency representatives, legislative and congressional staff, and other interested members. The working group, meeting the last few years, came up with recommendations to the Working Landscapes Committee and will send on to BDPAC.

Landowner Survey:

The Institute for Social Research at CSU Sacramento Foundation was chosen to survey approximately 150 landowners. Laura Jones will initiate the confidential telephone survey beginning in January 2005, and expects at least a 50% response. Laura explained that a letter will be mailed beforehand and the survey will include five topics: property characteristics, landowner awareness, confidence and trust in agencies involved, opinions about wildlife habitat restoration and exchange of information.

Laura will take back to the Institute Francis' suggestion that the survey itself be sent ahead of time, in regard to obtaining the least biased responses and best means of clarification without leading questions. It was also suggested that survey notification could be made in a newsletter/announcement for the Subreach. Dan suggested that landowners be informed of who will be making the phone call in the letter of introduction. Gregg explained he will be working with Ellen on landowner phone

numbers from public information, namely the assessor's roll. Once list is comprised, AW may assist with information on most effective contacts.

The draft questions were developed by the Institute for informational awareness purposes, to determine what knowledge there is now, and what will be communicated in the future to assist CALFED's work and the benefit of the planning process. Armand added that the survey is given twice to the same public to measure how knowledgeable landowners become, to convey what we come up with to the public and to be effective. It was then explained that the required survey is part of the existing CSP contract.

Several AW members expressed concerns that the survey results should be considered only to indicate trends and not to provide specific solutions.

AW Decision: The AW is OK with this survey as long as it is a project evaluation tool and meets CALFED's needs. The AW may include its own informational survey as part of its work at a later time if it finds that action appropriate.

Anyone with survey corrections will contact Laura at ljones@csus.edu 916-278-5962 by December 15, so that Laura may start the survey on schedule prior to the next AW meeting. A final copy of the survey will be sent to the AW along with the agenda packet for the next meeting.

Public Comment:

No public comment was offered.

Next Steps and January Agenda:

- The AW is scheduled to meet Monday, January 3, 2005, at the Colusa Farm Bureau from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm.
- January agenda will include discussion of the upcoming public meeting and newsletter and a review of the AW timeline.
- Any revisions to the November meeting summary will be sent to Carolyn within one week of today.
- Anyone with survey corrections will contact Laura at ljones@csus.edu 916-278-5962 by December 15, so that Laura may start the survey on schedule prior to the next AW meeting. A final copy of the survey will be sent to the AW along with the agenda packet for the next meeting.
- The AW wants to maximize its meeting time allocated to substantive, not process issues.
- The AW commits to prepare for each meeting by reading the materials distributed in advance.